UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.109/1042
10 August 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS)

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS) 1/

I. LAND AND PEOPLE

1. The Falkland Islands (Malvinas) comprise two large islands, East and West Falkland, and some 200 smaller ones, covering a total area of approximately 12,173 square kilometres. They are situated in the south Atlantic, some 772 km north-east of Cape Horn and about 480 km east of the southern Argentine mainland. South Georgia is an island of 3,592 km^2 situated about 1,300 km east-south-east of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) group and the South Sandwich Islands, covering an area of 311 km^2, lie about 750 km east-south-east of South Georgia. Neither of them has an indigenous or permanent population.

2. The population of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) according to the results of the census held in November 1986 is 1,916 inhabitants, excluding military personnel and contract workers employed by offshore contractors. Based on the same census, the population of Stanley, the capital, is estimated at 1,231, and that of the "camp" settlements outside Stanley at 647. According to the previous census of 1980, out of 1,813 inhabitants, 1,360 were born in the Islands and 302 in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

II. CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT

3. The Constitution of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) has been in force since 18 April 1985. 2/ From that date, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands ceased to be governed as dependencies of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and have their own Constitution. 3/ They continue, however, to be administered from Stanley "purely as a matter of convenience" 4/ and the Governor of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) holds concurrently the office of Commissioner for the Territories. 5/ A summary of the Constitution is set out in the 1985 working paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/835 and Corr.1, paras. 4-39).

4. A new Electoral Ordinance was passed by the Legislative Council in 1988 whose provisions, together with those of the Constitution, govern the election of members of the Legislative Council. The Territory was divided into two constituencies, the Stanley Constituency, made up by the town of Stanley and its neighbourhood, and the Camp Constituency, made up of the rest of the Territory. There are four elected members for each constituency, and only persons who are registered as electors and are 21 years of age or older are entitled to stand for election. A general election was held on 11 October 1989.

III. CONSIDERATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS

A. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

5. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) at its 1347th and 1354th meetings on 7 and 15 August 1989.

6. Statements were made, in the course of the debate, by the representatives of Cuba and Argentina (A/AC.109/PV.1354). The delegation of the United Kingdom did not participate in the Committee's consideration of the item. 6/ At its 1347th meeting, the Committee granted requests for hearing of petitioners and, at its 1354th meeting, heard statements by two representatives of the Legislative Council of the Falkland Islands and one other petitioner (A/AC.109/PV.1354).

7. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Special Committee adopted, by 20 votes to none, with 4 abstentions, a draft resolution (A/AC.109/L.1704) introduced by Venezuela on behalf also of Chile and Cuba (see A/AC.109/1008).

B. General Assembly

8. At its 3rd plenary meeting on 25 September 1989, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to consider the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that the hearings of the organizations and individuals having an interest in the question would be held in the Fourth Committee in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.

9. In their statements at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, Mr. Carlos Saul Menem, President of Argentina (A/44/PV.5), and Mr. John Major, then Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom (A/44/PV.8), outlined the position of their respective Governments on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). The representatives of the following delegations also referred to the question in their statements in the general debate: Peru (A/44/PV.4), Venezuela (A/44/PV.5), Botswana (A/44/PV.7), Cuba (A/44/PV.8), Afghanistan (A/44/PV.10), Bolivia, Indonesia and Spain (A/44/PV.11), Honduras (A/44/PV.14), Uruguay (A/44/PV.16), Panama (A/44/PV.17), Zimbabwe (A/44/PV.22), Belize (A/44/PV.23), Lesotho (A/44/PV.26) and Equatorial Guinea (A/44/PV.31).

10. On 1 November 1989, the General Assembly adopted, without a vote, decision 44/406 by which, on the proposal of the President, it took note of documents submitted on the item entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" and decided to defer consideration of the item and to include it in the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session.

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IV. CONSIDERATION BY OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

A. Organization of American States

11. At the 8th plenary session of its twentieth regular session on 4 June 1990, the General Assembly of the Organization of American States adopted by consensus a resolution by which, inter alia, it expressed its satisfaction over the resumption of talks between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom; called on both parties to move ahead in their efforts to reach a definitive solution to all their differences as soon as possible; and decided to continue examining the matter in subsequent sessions of the General Assembly, until a definitive solution was reached.

B. Permanent Mechanism for Consultations and Concerted Political Action

12. By a letter dated 23 October 1989 (A/44/694), addressed to the Secretary-General, the Permanent Representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela transmitted the text of the Declaration and Communiqué issued on 12 October 1989 at Ica, Peru, at the third meeting of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action.

13. Regarding the situation in the South Atlantic (A/44/694, annex I, para. 21), the heads of State of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, inter alia, expressed their satisfaction at the imminent resumption of negotiations between Argentina and the United Kingdom, to be held at Madrid on 17 and 18 October, which would promote the objectives of the declaration of the zone of peace and co-operation in the South Atlantic. They also reiterated their support for Argentina's legitimate rights of sovereignty.

V. POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF ARGENTINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

A. United Kingdom

14. In his statement in the general debate at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, Mr. John Major, then Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom said that his country and Argentina had taken significant steps towards achieving a more normal relationship. In doing so, the two countries had agreed to set on one side the question of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (A/44/PV.8).

15. In November 1989, in her speech to both Houses of Parliament, H.M. Queen Elizabeth II stated that her Government had stood by its commitment to the peoples of the Falkland Islands, while making good progress in normalizing relations with Argentina. 7/

16. In reply to a question posed to him in the House of Commons on 29 November 1989, 8/ Mr. Timothy Sainsbury, then Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, stated that his Government had made

progress towards more normal relations with Argentina, without in any way compromising its position on Falkland sovereignty. On 16 February 1990, 9/ speaking again in the House of Commons, Mr. Sainsbury restated that the normalization of relations with Argentina had been achieved "without discussion of sovereignty over the Falklands. The Government's determination to defend the islanders' right to determine their own future remains firm".

B. Argentina

17. The Government of Argentina has, during the year under review, continued to maintain its position reaffirming its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, as well as its readiness to resume negotiations with the United Kingdom for the purpose of settling all issues outstanding between the two countries, and to move towards normalization of its bilateral relations with the United Kingdom, without prejudice to the position of both countries regarding the issue of sovereignty over the Islands.

18. In his intervention in the course of the general debate at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, President Menem stated that, from the moment his Government had come to power, it had sought to join in the general climate of détente, and that was why it had taken positive measures. It had extended its hand, its willingness to enter into dialogue, while in no way casting any doubt on its historical and inalienable rights to sovereignty over those South Atlantic islands. The recent concrete steps taken at its initiative were well known. The normalization of bilateral dialogue should be followed by a firm and sensible will to bring an end to an obsolete colonial situation that was historically unsustainable. While expressing the deep gratitude of the Argentine people to those countries that had expressed overwhelming support for their just claim, he asserted that his Government would struggle unstintingly and peacefully, with reason and perseverance, to recover the Malvinas (A/44/PV.5).

19. In a press release issued on 10 June 1990 by the Argentine Ministry for External Relations and Worship to mark the anniversary of the Day of Affirmation of Argentine Rights over the Malvinas, the Argentine Government reiterated its firm resolve to regain, through negotiations, the exercise of Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, as well as over their surrounding maritime space; and expressed its conviction that the renewal of diplomatic relations with the United Kingdom would help to create a climate conducive to enabling the two countries, through negotiations, to arrive at a just, peaceful and lasting solution which would put an end to the "anachronistic colonial situation" that was impairing Argentine territorial integrity.

VI. OTHER POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

20. In August 1989, Sir Crispin Tickell, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland met in New York for two days with Mr. Lucio García de Solar, Special Representative of the Government of Argentina, in order to arrange for formal talks later in the year. At the end of the talks,

on 18 August, a joint communiqué was issued simultaneously in New York, Buenos Aires and London. (For the full text of the communiqué, see A/44/490, annex.)

21. Subsequently, formal talks were held from 17 to 19 October 1989 in Madrid, at which time the two Governments, inter alia, agreed that:

"(i) Nothing in the conduct or content of the present meeting or of any similar subsequent meetings shall be interpreted as:

"(a) A change in the position of the United Kingdom with regard to sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas;

"(b) A change in the position of the Argentine Republic with regard to sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas;

"(c) Recognition of or support for the position of the United Kingdom or the Argentine Republic with regard to sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas;

"(ii) No act or activity carried out by the United Kingdom, the Argentine Republic or third parties as a consequence and in implementation of anything agreed to in the present meeting or in any similar subsequent meetings shall constitute a basis for affirming, supporting, or denying the position of the United Kingdom or the Argentine Republic regarding the sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas." (For the full text of the joint statement, see A/44/678-S/20915, annex.)

22. Pursuant to the Madrid agreement, a Working Group on Confidence-building Measures met at Montevideo on 5 December 1989. A joint communiqué issued at the end of the talks stated:

"As agreed by the United Kingdom and Argentina, in their joint statement issued at Madrid on 19 October 1989, a meeting of the British/Argentine Working Group on measures to build confidence and avoid incidents in the military sphere was held in Montevideo on 5 and 6 December 1989. The Working Group examined proposals from both sides and agreed on measures for consideration by both Governments. These measures are intended to enhance the safety of maritime and air navigation in the South Atlantic, particularly in cases of emergency, as well as to avoid incidents.

"Both delegations agreed that their meetings had provided a useful opportunity to make progress in this field. Bearing in mind the need to consider further measures and to ensure careful preparation for the second Madrid meeting on 14 and 15 February 1990, it was agreed to meet again at the working group level before then, in order to prepare a final report for both Governments. The time and place of the second working group meeting is to be announced shortly. The meeting took place in a cordial and constructive spirit and both delegations reaffirmed their wish to take forward the process of normalization in British/Argentine relations."

23. The Working Group on Fisheries, set up under the Madrid agreement, met in Paris in December 1989. A joint press release issued at the end of the meeting stated the following:

"In accordance with the terms of the joint statement issued by the United Kingdom and Argentina at Madrid on 19 October 1989, the Working Group on Fisheries met in Paris on 18 and 19 December 1989.

"The delegations of the United Kingdom and Argentina agreed that the meeting of the Working Group was covered by the formula on sovereignty in paragraph 2 of the joint statement. They then held an exchange of views on the matters within the mandate of the Working Group, as defined in paragraph 10 of the joint statement.

"The Working Group considered proposals from both sides and agreed on reciprocal information measures for consideration by both Governments. These measures are intended to improve both sides' understanding of fisheries questions in the South Atlantic on the basis of scientific analyses of stocks.

"Recognizing the complexity of issues involved, the two sides agreed that it would be desirable to continue their consideration of these matters in a manner to be agreed by the two Governments.

"The meeting was held in a spirit of reciprocal good-will and cordiality. It concluded after the elaboration of a report which will be immediately submitted to both Governments for their consideration."

24. A meeting between delegations of the British and Argentine Governments, led respectively by Sir Crispin Tickell, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations and by Ambassador Lucio García de Solar, Special Representative of the Government of Argentina, was held in Madrid on 14 and 15 February 1990. In a joint statement issued at the conclusion of the meeting (A/45/136-S/21159, annex), the two delegations, after reaffirming the sovereignty formula over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas recorded in the joint statement issued at the end of the previous meeting in Madrid in October 1989 (see para. 21), announced their agreement to re-establish diplomatic relations. The United Kingdom delegation announced the decision of the United Kingdom Government, effective 31 March 1990, to lift the Protection Zone established around the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

25. The joint statement also declared, inter alia, that both Governments approved the final report of the "British-Argentine Working Group about measures to build confidence and avoid incidents in the military sphere", and had decided, effective 31 March 1990, under the terms of the formula on sovereignty referred to above, the following:

(a) To establish an "Interim reciprocal information and consultation system" for movements of units of their armed forces in areas of the south-east Atlantic aimed at increasing confidence between the United Kingdom and Argentina and contributing to the achievement of a more normal situation in the region without unnecessary delay;

(b) To establish a direct communication link between the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and the mainland in order to reduce the possibility of incidents, to limit their consequences in the case of occurrence, and to increase common knowledge of military activities in the south-west Atlantic;

(c) To agree on a set of rules of reciprocal behaviour for naval and air units of their armed forces when operating in proximity;

(d) To agree on a mechanism for emergencies aimed at facilitating air and maritime search and rescue operations in the south-west Atlantic;

(e) To establish a system of exchange of information on the safety and control of air and maritime navigation;

(f) To continue bilateral consideration of those matters and to review the measures agreed upon within one year from their coming into force.

26. Both delegations expressed the satisfaction of their Governments with the report of the Working Group on Fisheries (see para. 23). It was agreed that both Governments should proceed to exchange available information on the operations of the fishing fleets, appropriate catch and effort statistics and analyses of the status of the stocks of the most significant offshore species of the maritime area of the Atlantic Ocean between latitude 45 degrees south and latitude 60 degrees south. They also agreed to assess jointly such information and to explore bilaterally the possibilities for co-operation and conservation.

27. Both Governments decided to set up a working group on South Atlantic affairs with the mandate to continue consideration of the issues entrusted to the two working groups mentioned above, which would meet as frequently as the parties considered necessary, its first meeting to be held within one year of the date of the joint statement.

28. Both delegations considered the situation regarding contacts between the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and the mainland and agreed to continue considering that matter. The United Kingdom delegation recognized the Argentine readiness to facilitate the communications and trading opportunities between the Islands and the mainland.

29. Both Governments agreed to begin, through diplomatic channels, the negotiation of an investment promotion and protection agreement.

30. Both delegations agreed that it would be appropriate to abolish the requirement for visas for nationals of each country wishing to visit the other, once negotiations had been concluded through the appropriate diplomatic channels.

31. Both Governments also agreed to co-operate on matters relating to the protection of the environment and to explore ways of collaborating in the field of drug trafficking.

32. On 26 February 1990, Argentina and the United Kingdom reopened their embassies in London and Buenos Aires respectively, as agreed upon during the Madrid talks. 10/

33. On 31 March 1990, simultaneously the 150-mile Protection Zone was formally lifted, and the agreement described in paragraphs 26 to 30 above entered into force.

34. In July 1989, replying to a question posed to him in the House of Commons, Mr. A. Hamilton, Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, stated that the cost per capita for the permanent population of the Territory for the total campaign and garrison costs associated with security from 1983 to the end of the last financial year had amounted to £1.75 million. 11/

35. According to one report 12/ since April 1982, United Kingdom defence expenditure in the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) has exceeded £3 billion, including £319 million for the strategic airfield at Mount Pleasant. Associated costs included £312 million for garrison facilities (for 3,000 troops) at the Mount Pleasant complex, £14 million for the construction of Mare Harbour and £50 million for airfield and other improvements on Ascension Islands.

36. According to the administering Power, however, garrison capital costs have dwindled to almost nothing in the 1989/90 financial year and other costs continue to decrease substantially.

VIII. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

A. General

37. As previously reported (see A/AC.109/1004, para. 32), following the establishment in 1987 of the Falkland Islands Interim Conservation and Management Zone (FICZ), the economy of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), which had been almost entirely dependent on the production of wool and its exports, was dramatically transformed as a result of the increased importance of fisheries, which have become the greatest source of revenue for the Territory, yielding nearly £20 million in 1988.

38. The general economic development of the Territory is regulated by the Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC) which became operational in 1984, and which is the advisory board of the territorial Government. The Corporation is vested with the authority to approve projects up to £250,000 without reference to the United Kingdom Overseas Development Administration. The annual amounts expended by the Overseas Development Administration in various projects since 1979 were reported as follows:

Year	Thousands of pounds sterling
1979	915
1980	1 015
1981	1 058
1982	4 025
1983	9 053
1984	6 016
1985	10 700
1986	10 252
1987	8 165
1988	3 622

39. In June 1989, replying to a question posed to him at the House of Commons, Mr. C. Patten, Minister for Overseas Development, stated that under the last three European Community development funds, 1.6 million European currency units (ECU) had been allocated to the Territory to encourage its economic development. In addition, ECU 0.5 million had been allocated in the form of emergency aid, stabilization of export earnings (STABEX) transfers, and risk capital. 13/

B. Agriculture, land tenure and livestock

40. The Falkland Islands Company owns approximately 43 per cent of the total farmland. The territorial Government has been acquiring the Islands' huge, absentee-owned sheep ranches and subdividing and selling them in smaller units to local farmers, thus encouraging the evolution of a farming system based on owner-occupation and enabling the local farmers to retain earnings at home.

41. According to the administering Power, as a result of the subdivision, the number of farms has increased from 36 in the late 1970s to 86 at present, and only three of the very large farms are left. A direct consequence of the subdivision has been a transfer of majority ownership from overseas to the Islands. Before 1980, 76 per cent of the land was owned by overseas companies, compared to 25 per cent at present.

42. The Agricultural Research Centre is responsible for agricultural expansion in the Islands and deals with specific requests for advice. Its specialists in agronomy, sheep husbandry and animal health provide support for farmers, in particular new landholders under the land development scheme, on technical matters, with the supporting farm business management advice of an agricultural economist. The Centre is reportedly developing a multidisciplinary approach based on a number

of selected contract farms. In 1989, the Department of Agriculture took over the Research Centre, which is now staffed by contract personnel at the scientific officer level, and is making substantial and vital inroads into an understanding of the Territory's soils, grasses and farming schemes.

43. According to the administering Power, a firm scientific base for agricultural development is being accumulated and new systems of production are evolving. Results from both agronomy and animal production trials are leading to specific recommendations on land and stock improvement.

44. The staff of the Agricultural Department consists of a Director, a veterinary officer, four scientific staff, two laboratory technicians, five extension/advisory staff, and five support staff. The Department's budgetary provision for 1990-1991 is estimated at £738,000, as compared to £50,000 in 1987-1988.

45. The Agricultural Grant Scheme, a new farm capital grant designed to encourage further investment in agriculture and to provide assistance to Falkland Islands-owned companies, was introduced in the Territory in January 1989. The scheme is based on a five-year farm development plan available to all farmers. Although the overall increase in sheep is only 1 per cent, stocking rates and numbers have reportedly increased dramatically in some subdivided areas by 25 per cent.

46. The total number of sheep in the Territory in 1986-1987 was 692,150, compared to 698,879 in 1985-1986. There were also between 300,000 and 400,000 geese in the Islands in 1987.

47. The Territory exports 2,000 tons of raw wool annually, which represents 0.6 per cent of the world market, as compared to 1.96 per cent exported by the United Kingdom and 28 per cent by Australia. Although the contribution is small, the wool is popular for its soft quality. It accounts for 1.45 per cent of all United Kingdom imports of wool.

C. Fisheries

48. As previously reported (see A/AC.109/1004, paras. 41-44), FICZ was established in 1987 to protect fish stocks against overfishing. Vessels fishing inside the zone required a licence from the Falkland Islands Government.

49. Under the régime, when allocating licences, preference was given to companies prepared to enter into a joint venture with Stanley Fisheries Limited, a subsidiary of FIDC. The licence fees were kept fairly low, but the licencees had to pay a sum equivalent to the licence fees into a joint venture, 51 per cent owned by Stanley Fisheries Limited, and 49 per cent by foreign companies. However, in a report issued in March 1989 by FICZ reviewing the first two years of operations under the régime, the Falkland Islands Government, while reporting the financial success of the operations, also acknowledged that the arrangement was flawed. Much of the money was spent in the United Kingdom on buying second-hand trawlers, converting

them and paying British crews to operate them. The 51 per cent stake remained at a minimal value because the potential of joint ventures had not yet been fully developed. One company, the Seamount Company, went into liquidation, forcing the Falkland Islands Government to repay an unsecured loan in the amount of £9 million and to start an official inquiry into the matter.

50. According to a report, 14/ by the end of 1989, the remaining 17 or 18 joint ventures in the Territory were being wound up at a loss to the Islands estimated at between £25 million and £30 million by the Attorney General.

51. According to the administering Power, there are currently some 200 vessels licensed to fish in FICZ, compared with 600 in 1986 when there was no formal regulation. The total catch from FICZ was just over 400,000 tons. Licence fees yielded approximately £28 million, about 70 per cent of the Territory's revenue.

D. Industry

52. FIDC provides grants and loans for development projects at concessionary interest rates, aimed at increasing self-sufficiency and the export of processed and manufactured products, as well as achieving maximum exploitation of the country's natural resources.

53. With assistance from FIDC, a number of small businesses have been established, including an electrical contractor, a garage, a retailing co-operative and a restaurant-bar. During the period under review, FIDC also assisted approximately 65 small businesses including a bus service, a taxi service, an electronics repair service, a mechanical repair shop, a number of restaurants, bars and retail outlets, a metal-working business, a driving school and a laundry. Other projects assisted by FIDC include a salmon farm set up in Fox Bay Village; a new poultry farm and a market garden which produce eggs and a range of salad vegetables capable of supplying the local community, the fishing fleet and the military. Two dairies have also been set up to provide the population of the Territory with milk, cream and butter. In Stanley, the community is supplied with bread from a local bakery and meat from a butchery.

E. Tourism

54. The Falkland Islands Tourism, Ltd. (FIT), a subsidiary of FIDC established in 1985, promotes the Islands as a tourist destination. It has financed the construction of a new tourist lodge on Sea Lion Island and has assisted in the establishment of tourist lodges at Port Howard on Pebble Island. The Lodge, a new tourist hotel, was opened in January 1988. FIT has also provided financial assistance for self-catering accommodation at Dunbar, Weddell, Port Howard and Saunders Islands. In addition to various promotional leaflets, a video has been produced for distribution to tour operators. According to the administering Power, tourism is rapidly becoming the Territory's third largest industry, showing substantial returns after only its third operating season.

F. Mining

55. There is no significant mining activity in the Territory. According to the administering Power, the area may have some oil-yielding potential, although the enormous development costs and the unpredictable weather conditions are likely to limit the interest of oil companies in exploiting whatever resources might exist. The administering Power has reported, however, that increasing interest is being shown in oil exploration.

G. Energy

56. The Government-owned power station has been installed at the Fox Bay East settlement, consisting of one 40 kW and one 112 kW diesel-driven generator. Throughout the rest of the Islands, power is generated by small-engined generators.

57. During the period under review, equipment was extended and new generator equipment was installed raising the power station's maximum output to 4.7 megawatts. A 10 kW wind generator was installed on Pebble Island in 1987. Interest in solar energy is growing.

H. Transport and communications

58. At present, there are 184 km of roads in East Falkland and 20 km on West Falkland, mostly of stone macadam. The length of fully surfaced roads of bitumen or concrete is small. Road construction continues and roadworks are receiving increased priority to the extent that the supply of labour allows. There are no railways in the Territory.

59. The Territory's Government operates an internal air service using three twin-engined Islander aircraft. Since February 1987, the Government has been operating a Dornier twin-engined aircraft in the surveillance of the Falkland Island Conservation and Management Zone. A new airport was opened at Mount Pleasant on 12 May 1985, capable of taking wide-bodied jets. There are flights to and from the United Kingdom twice a week.

60. There is a shipping service between the United Kingdom and the Territory, with cargo vessels arriving approximately every six weeks. Inter-island sea transport is offered by two small cargo vessels, one of 229 tons and one of 144 tons, both operated by a local shipping company.

61. There is a Government-owned and operated telephone system in Stanley, and an extensive radio-telephone network throughout the Islands. An international service, first established in 1968, has now been extended to a full 24-hour-a-day service. International telegraph and telex services are available. There is also a Falkland Islands Broadcasting Service which is a non-commercial daily radio financed jointly by the Government and by the British Forces Broadcasting Service, which is a division of the Services Sound and Vision Corporation of Great Britain.

62. In September 1988, Cable and Wireless announced that a £5.4 million digital telecommunications network spanning the entire Territory was to be installed and would be ready for service by early 1990. The cost of the new service is to be shared by the Falkland Islands Government and Cable and Wireless, which supplies the Islands' international service. According to the administering Power, the new system, which was introduced in the summer of 1989, has vastly improved the standard of communications in the Territory. Cable and Wireless will also operate a new domestic network under a 22-year exclusive licence.

63. In January 1989, a commercial ferry service began operating between the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and Uruguay and Chile. Air services between the Islands and the mainland were restored in early 1990.

I. Banking

64. The only bank is the Standard Chartered Bank of the United Kingdom, which opened a branch in Stanley in 1983 which provides a full range of banking facilities. Both United Kingdom and local coinage are used, together with local currency notes of values £20, £10, £5 and £1.

J. Public finance

65. Ordinary revenue increased from £39.8 million in 1988 to £42.1 million for the year ended June 1989, resulting from the increment in fisheries revenue, which accounted for £29.7 million, over 70 per cent of the total revenue. Other principal sources of revenue were: personal and company tax, £2.2 million (5.2 per cent); public works, £2.4 million (5.7 per cent); customs and harbour receipts, £1.5 million (3.6 per cent); post and telecommunications, £0.3 million (0.7 per cent); and aviation, £0.3 million (0.7 per cent).

66. Total expenditure amounted to £32.6 million in 1989, as compared with £31.1 million in 1988. Of that amount, £18.1 million represented ordinary expenditure, £3.0 million was transferred to development fund, and £11.5 million was development expenditure from Colony Funds, and £0.03 million was development expenditure to be met from the United Kingdom Fund.

67. The Territory's main imports are food products and tobacco, manufactured goods, machinery and transport equipment. The United Kingdom remains almost exclusively its main trading partner. Total imports in 1986 were valued at £5.1 million, and total exports, consisting mainly of wool, £2 million. No figures are available for 1987/1988.

68. National income rose from £4,260 per capita in 1984 to £15,000 in 1987, but fell to £12,738 in 1988.

IX. SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

A. Labour and employment

69. No unemployment is reported in the Territory. As of 1 February 1990, salaries for a 40-hour work-week were as follows:

	(Pounds sterling) (Per hour)
Handymen	2.89-3.20 (according to ability)
Labourers (aged 18 and over)	2.82
Skilled labourers	3.23-3.52 3.89-3.20

In the Camp, minimum monthly wages for a 40-hour work-week were as follows:

	(Pounds sterling) (Per month)
General labourers over 18 years of age	285.19
Foremen	305.15
Shepherds living in settlements	335.37
Shepherds living outside settlements	354.41

70. In addition, a cost-of-living adjustment, reviewed regularly and adjusted accordingly, is paid to all employees. Labourers and shepherds also receive free quarters, fuel, meat and milk.

71. Extra bonuses are paid for shearing, while labourers and shepherds add to their earnings by engaging in contract work, such as fencing and peat-cutting. Employees in the Camp are given 21 days' annual holidays, including 9 public holidays.

72. There were 49 overseas personnel under contract, and 125 local and other employees at the end of 1987. Also a number of St. Helenian workers were employed in short-term contracts to fill essential vacancies.

B. Housing

73. The majority of the houses in Stanley are privately owned. The Government owns a number of houses which are rented to government employees and other residents of Stanley. Housing construction continues on behalf of the Island Government and in the private sector at an overall annual growth rate of about 12 per cent.

74. It will be recalled that, in October 1987, the Government announced that various projects were being initiated to alleviate the current housing shortage. Those projects included a contract valued at £2.7 million, on a joint-venture basis, to build 30 houses on the Jersey Estate with units ranging from one to four bedrooms, including all services, roads, footpaths and streetlights, scheduled to be completed in March 1989.

75. Work also began in October 1987 on a plot near Lookout Camp, where 26 houses were to be built by the Housing Corporation Ltd., a company formed by a consortium of Stanley Fisheries Limited's joint-venture partners, which was awarded the contract on its bid of £2.6 million. Fourteen two-bedroom, nine three-bedroom and three large dormitory units were expected to be completed by June 1988. The complex, known locally as "fishing village", was being built primarily to house fisheries' employees. According to the administering Power, housing development under the United Kingdom Government and other sponsors has been completed.

76. On 15 August 1989, the Executive Council of the Territory decided to sell a number of its 164 houses and flats because it wanted to encourage owner occupation, and because shortage of manpower made the maintenance of houses difficult. The proceeds of the sales would be used to help to finance new projects designed to reduce Stanley's housing shortage. Offers to purchase those houses were made by 59 tenants on 15 September 1989. 15/

77. According to the administering Power, the building of two new housing estates has alleviated to some extent the current housing shortage and the proposed construction of single-unit flats will provide accommodation for young single people.

C. Public health

78. Medical and dental treatment and drugs are free to the residents of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). All employed persons are required to pay a medical service levy of 1 per cent of their salary and employers 1.5 per cent of the salary paid. Self-employed persons contribute 1.5 per cent of their net income.

79. There is no private system of medical care. The Medical Department employs 6 registered medical practitioners, 10 registered nurses, 6 midwives, 8 untrained nursing auxiliaries, 1 sanitary inspector, 3 laboratory and X-ray technicians, 2 dental surgeons and 1 pharmacist.

80. A new joint civilian/military hospital, the King Edward Memorial Hospital, built at a cost of about £13 million, which became fully operational in August 1987, was formally opened on 8 December 1987. The hospital is equipped with 28 beds, including two each for intensive care and maternity units. Facilities include an operating theatre suite, a pathology laboratory, an X-ray department and a casualty resuscitation department. The hospital civilian medical service provides primary care to the population of the Territory, to some military personnel and to the crews of the fishing fleets around the islands. It also provides airborne medical service to outlying farm settlements. Secondary care for civilian, military and fishing crews is provided by the military surgeon, anaesthetist and operating team at the hospital.

81. According to the administering Power, in addition to its therapeutic function, the Medical Department is also involved in a range of preventive medicine activities, including running child health clinics, school medical services, immunization programmes, clinics for women and education programmes.

82. Currently, infirm elderly are cared for in the hospital. A sheltered housing complex with accommodation for 15 persons is situated adjacent to the hospital. Places are being developed for the building of an old peoples' home. Conversion of a suitable building into a temporary old peoples' home is being considered.

83. A system of social welfare grants and pensions is in operation to handle hardship and disability cases. Related expenditure for the 1988/89 financial year was £17,860, and is estimated at approximately £20,000 for the 1989/90 financial year. One full-time and one part-time Social Welfare Officer are employed by the Medical Department to co-ordinate all social welfare functions.

84. In 1988/89, estimated recurrent expenditure on all aspects of health care and public health was £1,738,840 and estimated special expenditure was £3,100, as compared with £802,810 and £3,000 respectively in 1987/88. Expenditure for 1990/91 is estimated at £1,846,510.

D. Educational conditions

85. Education is free in the islands. Attendance is compulsory in Stanley for all children between the ages of 5 and 15 years. Outside Stanley, attendance is compulsory for all children between 5 and 15 years living within 1.6 kilometres of a settlement school and for children between 7 and 15 years living within 3.2 kilometres of a settlement school. According to the administering Power, there is virtually no illiteracy in the Territory.

86. In 1988, school enrolment totalled 353 and there were 42 teachers, of whom 36 were formally qualified. There are seven schools: two in Stanley (a senior and a junior school), one in Goose Green and one in Fox Bay East; the rest are small settlement schools. Secondary education is available only in Stanley where 137 senior and 158 junior students are enrolled. There is a government boarding hostel in Stanley with accommodation for 85 older children attending senior school and the upper classes of the junior school. Plans have been drawn up for the building of a

new school and the sum of £14,000 has been allocated for that purpose. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by 1992, and construction is expected to begin soon.

87. All instruction in the schools throughout the islands is given in the English language, with textbooks obtained from the United Kingdom. The Spanish language has been reintroduced recently in the school curriculum. Opportunities exist for students to further their education in schools in the United Kingdom, financed by the United Kingdom Government, which also makes available bursaries for tertiary training. In 1987, no students were enrolled in schools in the United Kingdom.

88. For the year 1987/88,* expenditures on education totalled £743,840, as compared with £547,000 in 1986/87. An additional amount of £31,640 was spent for new equipment for Stanley schools, hostel and camp education, and £331,172 for teacher and overseas training.

E. Human rights

89. According to the administering Power, the principles set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are observed in the Territory. In addition, the administering Power has extended the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to the Territory, although they are not embodied in any one legislative instrument. The Constitution forbids the enactment of laws that are discriminatory.

F. Status of women

90. According to the administering Power, there is no discrimination on the basis of sex in the Territory, in conformity with articles 2 and 3 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Notes

1/ The information contained in this paper covering the period has been derived from official United Nations documentation, from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations on 12 June 1990 for the year 1989/90.

2/ South Atlantic Territories; the Falkland Islands Constitution Order 1985 (Statutory Instruments, 1985/444).

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* The year 1987/88 is a correction of information given in the last working paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/1004).

3/ South Atlantic Territories; the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands Order, 1985 (Statutory Instruments), 1985/449.

4/ Statement by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, House of Commons, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), 14 March 1985, cols. 492-494.

5/ The South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands Order, op. cit., sect. 4.

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23, part I, paras. 76 and 77.

7/ House of Commons, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), vol. 160, No. 176, 16 November 1989.

8/ House of Commons, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), 29 November 1989.

9/ Ibid., 16 February 1990.

10/ FBIS LAT-90-039, 27 February 1990.

11/ House of Commons, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), vol. 157, No. 150, 21 July 1989.

12/ Peter Beck, The Falkland Islands as an International Problem, London and New York: Routledge, 1988, p. 178.

13/ House of Commons, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), vol. 154, No. 121, 13 June 1989.

14/ Financial Times (London), 15 December 1989.

15/ Parliamentary Debates, House of Commons, vol. 159, No. 165, 30 October 1989.

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.109/1043
30 July 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON T' GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR IN OBSERVANCE OF THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES, HELD AT BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS, FROM 19 TO 21 JUNE 1990

Rapporteur: Mrs. Maria Cecilia BERMUDEZ (Cuba)

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INTRODUCTION

1. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly, bearing in mind that the year 1990 would mark the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and on the recommendation of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, adopted resolution 44/100 of 11 December 1989, to which was annexed a programme of activities to be carried out in observance of that anniversary.

2. Both the resolution and the programme of activities emphasized the importance of the occasion as an opportunity to evaluate the progress achieved over the past 30 years in the implementation of the Declaration and, in the light of the recent accession of Namibia to independence, to reflect on the outstanding problems of decolonization and formulate an improved approach and methodology that would assist the Special Committee in its future consideration of the remaining Territories.

3. In its enabling legislation, the General Assembly commended the programme of activities for appropriate action to all States, the United Nations bodies concerned, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization. Within that context, the Special Committee was mandated not only to follow closely the implementation of the programme but also to hold two regional seminars, one in the Pacific and the other in the Caribbean, the two regions where the majority of the remaining 18 Territories are located.

4. As stated in the guidelines and rules of procedure for the seminars (A/AC.109/1022), the primary objectives of the two regional events were to provide the Special Committee with the opportunity to discuss the specific problems of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, most of them small island Territories, their special needs and the challenges posed by their geographical location and other specific conditions, and to draw up plans for the rapid decolonization of those Territories bearing in mind the provisions of General Assembly resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988 calling for a complete decolonization by the year 2000.

5. In formulating strategies on how best to assist the peoples of those Territories in their progress towards the exercise of their right to self-determination, special attention was to be given to the views expressed by their representatives at the seminars, hence the importance the Special Committee attached to the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the exceptional efforts it deployed to secure such participation. In this connection, the understanding shown by the administering Powers was of great assistance in ensuring the attendance of the largest number ever of participants from Non-Self-Governing Territories at a seminar of the Special Committee.

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SEMINAR

6. The Seminar in the Caribbean region was held at Bridgetown from 19 to 21 June 1990.

7. The Seminar held five meetings in which representatives of United Nations bodies, Non-Self-Governing Territories and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as eminent persons invited as special guests also took part (for further details, see annex III to the present report).

8. The Seminar was conducted by Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations and Chairman of the Special Committee, as its Chairman, with the participation of the following members of the Special Committee: Afghanistan, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Norway and Trinidad and Tobago.

9. At the 1st meeting, on 19 June 1990, the following representatives were appointed officers of the Seminar: Mr. Lu Yongshou (China), Mr. N'Zi Anet (Côte d'Ivoire), Mr. Sverre J. Bergh Johanssen (Norway) as Vice-Chairmen, Mrs. Maria Cecilia Bermudez (Cuba) as Rapporteur, and Mr. Frank D. Abdulah (Deputy Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)) as Chairman of the Drafting Committee. The following participants were appointed to serve as members of that Committee: Mr. Mohauddin Taeb (Afghanistan), Mr. Alexander Slabý (Czechoslovakia), Mrs. Margaret A. King-Rousseau (Trinidad and Tobago), Mr. Ralph T. O'Neal (British Virgin Islands), Mr. John Osborne (Montserrat), Mr. Wendal L. Swann and Mr. Alden Durham (Turks and Caicos Islands) and Mr. Carlyle Corbin (United States Virgin Islands). Also serving on the Committee were special guests, Mr Roger Clark, Mr. Paul Leary, Mr. Anthony Thorndike and Mr. Peter Schwab, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations, Ms. Judith L. Bourne and Ms. Phyllis Fleming-Banks.

10. The Seminar considered the themes recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/100 (see annex I to the present report).

II. CONDUCT OF THE SEMINAR

A. Proceedings of the meetings

11. The Seminar was opened on 19 June 1990 by Mr. Tesfay Tadesse, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations and who served as Chairman of the Seminar. Mr. Tadesse introduced the Prime Minister of Barbados.

12. Mr. L. Erskine Sandiford, Prime Minister of Barbados, delivered an address at the opening meeting of the Seminar. That statement is reproduced in extenso in annex II to the present report.

13. A message received from the Secretary-General of the United Nations was read out by the representative of the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship.

14. At its final meeting on 21 June 1990, the Seminar adopted by acclamation a final document entitled "Summary of discussions". For further details, see chapter III of the present report. At the same meeting, a resolution of appreciation to the Government of Barbados was read out (see annex IV to the present report).

15. In his statement following the address of the Prime Minister, Mr. Tadesse said that one of the main objectives of the Seminar was to learn at first hand the views of the representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories on their respective Territories, so that the Special Committee could take into account those views when carrying out its mandate according to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

16. Noting that when the three chapters of the Charter on Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories were adopted in 1945, they pertained to more than two thirds of the current membership of the United Nations. Two of the chapters concerned the International Trusteeship System providing for independence as an alternative to self-government. The remaining chapter, dealing with Non-Self-Governing Territories, fell short of mentioning that option.

17. The merit of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, lay in its proclamation that all peoples had the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they were free to determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

18. After outlining the events leading to the establishment of the Special Committee, the Chairman stated that patiently and methodically, with the freedom and well-being of the colonial peoples as its only objective, the Committee has continued to review the situation in the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories.

19. Noting that none of the members of CARICOM was independent when the Declaration was adopted, the Chairman stated that, with the exception of Montserrat, all had exercised their right to self-determination and independence.

20. With the accession to independence of Namibia, in exercise of its right to self-determination, the Special Committee believed that the time had come, taking advantage of the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration, to review the progress achieved over the past 30 years and to set new priorities in the light of the specific needs and, most important, the wishes of the remaining Territories.

21. While the majority of the remaining Territories with which the Special Committee was concerned were relatively small in size and population with limited resources, the Chairman reaffirmed that the basic principles set out in the Declaration were still applicable to them. It was essential, however, to take into account the special needs and specific conditions of the smaller Territories. Although the Committee's actions continued to be guided by a full commitment to the principles contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), it had not lost sight of the fact that a great deal of realism and flexibility were necessary to fulfil the objectives of decolonization.

22. He recalled that the need for flexibility in the process of self-determination was fully recognized by the United Nations in its General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960. Principle VI in the annex to that resolution clearly indicated that a Non-Self-Governing Territory could be said to have reached a full measure of self-government by: (a) emergence as a sovereign independent State; (b) free association with an independent State; or (c) integration with an independent State.

23. The General Assembly had also specified in the same resolution that the adoption of any of those options should be the result of a free and voluntary choice of the peoples of the Territories concerned.

24. The importance of that resolution with clear options that could be offered to the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories could not be over-emphasized. It refuted misleading views that the Special Committee on decolonization had nothing but independence to offer when the peoples concerned did not want it or considered that they were not ready for it. He noted further that some Territories had exercised fully their right to self-determination under United Nations observation and had achieved independence. Others had not chosen full independence but, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV), self-government in the form of integration or free association with another State.

25. The Chairman noted that the Special Committee, through its annual reviews of the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, was fully aware that many of the remaining Territories, particularly those in the Caribbean, had been progressively and steadily conducting their own affairs and that, in the majority of them, progress towards self-government had reached an advanced stage.

26. Stating unequivocally that it was not the role of the Special Committee to dictate to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in which direction their future lay, the Chairman stressed that the Committee's mandate was to ascertain that the administering Powers were fulfilling their Charter responsibilities by preparing the peoples of the Territories under their administration to take charge of their own destiny. That entailed the political, economic and social advancement of those populations.

27. It was also the Committee's responsibility to ensure that the remaining Territories were given the opportunity to exercise their right to self-determination and to ascertain that the result of any such exercise was the free expression of the peoples concerned, acting with complete knowledge and awareness of the options open to them.

28. With regard to economic and and social advancement, the Special Committee had noted that, while a number of the remaining Territories had progressed towards self-reliance and a high standard of living, for various reasons, a great deal remained to be accomplished in the majority of them.

29. The Chairman informed the Seminar that one of its tasks would be to examine the economic and social conditions in those small island Territories and, in the light of the views expressed by the peoples concerned, to formulate suggestions for appropriate solutions to their specific problems.

30. He invited participants to give due consideration to some of the leading concerns of the peoples of those Territories such as: the need for specific economic development programmes to encourage greater self-reliance; the need for adequate agricultural programmes to reduce dependence on food imports; the creation of adequate economic, transport and communication infrastructure to overcome the adverse economic effects of remoteness and isolation; maritime jurisdiction and marine resources; environmental degradation; the need for an increased transfer of resources to those Territories to create new economic activities and generate employment; the preservation and enrichment of the cultural heritage of the peoples; the development of the tourist industry without cultural disruption or marginalization of the local population; and military activities and related installations that impeded the decolonization process.

31. He considered that any suggested course of action should be tailored to the particular conditions prevalent in any given Territory. However constructive and appropriate the suggestions of the Seminar might be, their implementation would require the full co-operation of the administering Powers concerned. The Special Committee, while regretting that no administering Power had accepted its invitation to participate in the Seminar, appreciated the understanding and flexibility those Powers had demonstrated during its preparation. That positive attitude augured well for future co-operation.

32. In accordance with its mandate, General Assembly resolution 2105 (XX) of 20 December 1965 and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the Chairman stated that the Special Committee would continue to pay particular attention to the smaller Territories. Co-operation with administering Powers would be essential to ensure that no obstacles stood in the way of those Territories when it came to the exercise of their right to self-determination in implementation of General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV).

33. In conclusion, the Chairman recalled resolution 43/47, by which the General Assembly had proclaimed the years 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. He invited all participants to assist the Committee in its efforts to meet that challenge by ensuring that no colony remained on earth when the bell of history tolled for the end of the twentieth century.

B. Summary of statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories

34. The ensuing section gives a summary of statements by representatives of Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands.

Anguilla

35. Mrs. Phyllis Fleming-Banks, representative of the National Council of Women of Anguilla, stressed the need for the political education of the citizens of dependent Territories. The enlightenment process should address the social, psychological, intellectual, cultural, political and economic aspects of colonialism and inequalities based on sex and race. She recalled the assertion of a former President of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) that decolonization began in the mind as a creative process that boosted self-confidence while creating a new consciousness. Small dependent Territories needed to feel the support of other regional countries, and she considered that encouragement of regional interaction and trade was crucial at the present stage.

36. In small Territories where economies were based on one industry, serious attempts should be made at diversification. In particular, fishing and agriculture should be aggressively developed in combination with educational awareness campaigns about the negative effects of reliance on imported food. Foreign investment and land alienation should be monitored through the enactment and enforcement of relevant laws. She considered that with education and the co-operation and commitment of the international community, the self-determination process could become a reality. In conclusion, she cautioned that the role of women in that process must not be overlooked.

Bermuda

37. Mr. C. Walton Brown, Jr., Chairman of the Committee for the Independence of Bermuda, considered that the three political parties in Bermuda had distanced themselves from the independence question for various reasons based on political expediency. He noted further that the vital question of national sovereignty, an idea supported by the leaders of all three parties, had been pushed to the political back burner because of the narrow political interests of the parties. His non-partisan group had been founded to develop an awareness of the meaning of independence for Bermuda, a cultural awareness and pride in Bermuda. It sought to build a national consensus in favour of independence and to guide Bermuda to independence. Noting that many Bermudians lacked sufficient information to make a decision about independence, he considered that many wished to address current limitations on human rights legislation before moving towards independence, and a large number wanted constitutional changes because they questioned the utility of the British style of parliamentary democracy in the context of a racially divided society.

38. The social composition in Bermuda raised legitimate questions about the electoral process in the decision on independence. A large minority of the electorate, composed of expatriates from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with particular attachment to Britain, could influence any decision on independence and, in essence, constituted a minority veto. Mr. Brown noted that any proposal to limit that group's participation in the process would raise a number of constitutional and political issues, and stated that advocates for restricting voting privileges to nationals wanted to avoid having the independence issue decided upon by an expatriate group fundamentally interested in maintaining British rule.

39. He concluded that within the next decade, public scrutiny of independence for Bermuda would increase. The Territory had one of the highest per capita incomes in the world, negligible unemployment, a strong international financial base and political stability. He considered that those conditions had primed the Territory for independence. Racial unease and the lack of political leadership would result, however, in continued British colonial rule for some time. He concluded that if Bermuda were to gain international respect and control over its own destiny it would eventually have to sever the colonial link.

British Virgin Islands

40. Mr. Ralph T. O'Neal, Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Natural Resources and Labour, recalled that a United Nations visiting mission had been dispatched by the Special Committee to the British Virgin Islands in 1977. He stressed that the majority of the population of the British Virgin Islands did not want independence. Moreover, the Legislative Council had adopted a motion stating that no fundamental changes could be made to the Constitution unless approved by a two-thirds majority in a referendum. He declared that "the British Virgin Islands will not be bullied, provoked, coerced or sweet-mouthed into independence". He considered that the Special Committee must find a way to deal with the small States which do not wish to opt for independence. He stated that the Special Committee must respect the wishes of the majority of the people. The United Kingdom, as the administering Power, had often stated that if independence were the wish of the people, no obstacle or obstruction would be put in its way.

41. The Deputy Chief Minister noted that the Territory participated as an associate member in a number of regional and international organizations. Representatives of the British Virgin Islands were also included in United Kingdom delegations. Because it had succeeded in attracting foreign investment, his country had improved its economy and the standard of living of its population. Owing to the small size of the Territory, vulnerability to hurricanes and its propensity for use as a transit for drug traffickers, the British Virgin Islanders were grateful for support from the continued association with the United Kingdom. The Territory needed technical and educational assistance which it was receiving from the European Community and from United Nations bodies.

42. Noting that although the Executive Council of the British Virgin Islands had adopted a resolution in 1989 stating that it would not encourage a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory, he stated that the territorial Government appreciated the role the Special Committee had played and continued to play in urging the administering Powers to create conditions that would ensure economic and social development in their respective Territories.

Montserrat

43. Mr. John Osborne, Chief Minister and Minister for Finance of Montserrat, stated that most of the people of Montserrat, particularly the young, would like political independence, but were deterred by the lack of a basic infrastructure. With assistance in developing its infrastructure, including a proper airport and a safe harbour, Montserrat could develop a viable economy and opt for independence.

The Territory had failed to convince the United Kingdom however, that such assistance would remove the need for further hand-outs.

44. He pointed out that it would be a mistake to demand independence under the existing economic and physical conditions in Montserrat and in most of the remaining Territories. While he believed in the right to self-determination, the people were hindered from exercising that right because of the economic situation and a lack of preparatory support for independence.

45. The Chief Minister noted that changes in the British Nationality Act had resulted in the denial of British nationality to the remaining black colonies, in contrast to nationals of Gibraltar and the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). He considered the new Constitution disgraceful. It had been imposed on Montserrat in December 1989 without consultation, and had transferred powers concerning offshore banking from the Minister for Finance to the Governor. His Government had recognized certain weaknesses in its administration of offshore banking and had requested technical assistance. Instead, it had received a new Constitution.

46. He could not see any evidence in Montserrat that the United Kingdom was interested in preparing the remaining Territories for independence. Apart from direct assistance after Hurricane Hugo, the United Kingdom had not played any role in helping the territorial Government to prepare the people for independence, either educationally or economically. He stressed that, without a sound infrastructure, it would be impossible to convince people to accept independence. He urged the Committee to convince the United Kingdom to provide the necessary aid and assistance to develop the Territory in such a way that it would survive after independence.

47. To avoid creating the wrong impression, he clarified that, for a variety of reasons, not everyone in Montserrat wanted independence at the present time. For most, it was based on a fear that the economy would falter. Although most people would wish to retain a special relationship with the United Kingdom, he would like Montserrat to be in a position in the not too distant future to express its right to self-determination and join the international community of nations.

48. During an exchange of views, the Chief Minister stated that Montserrat was not a dependent Territory but a colony, which could not "depend" on the administering Power. All the services in Montserrat were paid for by local revenues. The United Kingdom provided development aid, as did Canada, the United States and the European Community.

49. Montserrat did not want to become independent only to become the client of another Power. He called upon the international community to provide the necessary assistance for infrastructure and training to enable Montserrat to attain genuine independence.

Turks and Caicos Islands

50. Mr. Wendal L. Swann, Minister for Social Services, noted that previous statements at the Seminar had proven that the people of the remaining British dependent Territories in the Caribbean were ignorant or at best uneducated about

independence and other available options for future political status of the Territories. Therefore it was erroneous to say that the people had decided against independence. That applied also to his Territory where independence had been an issue in a previous election.

51. He agreed with the representative of the British Virgin Islands that a Territory should not have independence forced on it. The people of the Turks and Caicos Islands, however, would vigorously resist every effort to deny them independence. No one should dictate how a people should proceed to an act of self-determination. He rejected the idea that a particular situation in one or more Territories should be used as an excuse by an administering Power to intervene in the affairs of another.

52. He cautioned that national statistics were misleading. The per capita gross national product in the Turks and Caicos Islands amounted to $US 4,500. However, over 50 per cent of the labour force was expatriate. In order to elevate the living standards of the local people, the Territory had sought foreign investment, which in turn had attracted foreign labour. According to the Minister, Turks and Caicos Islanders were forced out of the job market at the higher end of the spectrum because of a lack of requisite skills, and at the lower end because of illegal immigration and cheap labour from neighbouring islands.

53. He called upon the Special Committee to look seriously at the question of political education of the peoples of the dependent Territories and the future political status options available to them.

54. In a later statement, the Minister said that recolonization described the process taking place in the British-dependent Territories. In 1984, the Governor of the Turks and Caicos Islands had agreed to lease the islands' aerodome, and any others constructed in the interim, for a period of 20 years to a United States national. The current Government, unwilling to honour that agreement, was being sued by that United States citizen. While the case was being arbitrated in London, the United Kingdom Government had so far refused to help the Territory locate, much less finance, appropriate legal counsel.

55. In addition, the administering Power was seeking to have legislation enacted in the Turks and Caicos Islands that would render subject to investigation any public official known to be friendly with someone who had suddenly become wealthy. The Minister believed that enacting such legislation would entail a level of scrutiny to which British officials and lawmakers would not be held. He concluded by expressing the hope that the Special Committee would send a visiting mission to his country.

56. Mr. Alden Durham, Leader of the Opposition, said that currently there was no programme for the independence of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the near future. His party viewed independence as inevitable and believed that the Territory could not or should not rely on the British for ever. Consequently, it was committed to the development of a sound economic base and a cadre of trained personnel so that independence could be sustained.

57. He stated that the 1988 Constitution was "thrust upon us by the British". It had vested supreme power in the colonial Governor and had legislated a multi-constituency voting system giving more weight to some votes than to others. In addition, it had combined island constituencies in such a way that placed a small island at a political disadvantage. He appealed to the Special Committee to persuade the British Government to allow Turks and Caicos Islanders more input in determining their own future, and to reinstate the process of "one person, one vote". Further, he asked the Special Committee to observe the 1992 general elections.

United States Virgin Islands

58. Mr. Carlyle Corbin, Representative for External Affairs of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands, noted that under international law the relationship between a Non-Self-Governing Territory and its administering Power was defined in the Charter. However, the constitutional mechanisms governing the relationship between the United States Virgin Islands and its administering Power did not emanate from international law, but rather from United States domestic law. The key mechanism, the "territorial clause" of the Constitution of the administering Power, also applied to Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands and Puerto Rico.

59. The current political relationship and any change in [illegible]tus rested with the United States Congress. Congressional power had led to unilateral application of certain laws by the administering Power without consulting the territorial Government. That process was supported by the courts of the administering Power, which tended to interpret the relationship as if the Territory had chosen the political status option of "integration". Without a referendum on that status, such a position was inconsistent with international law, and the people of the Territory were unaware of the application of international law to the decolonization process. He also called upon the United Nations to facilitate political education programmes in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and requested the Special Committee to send visiting missions to the remaining Territories to ascertain the levels of awareness of the legitimate political options available to the people.

60. In order to create conditions for legitimate political education and a subsequent referendum based on international law, he considered that the United States Virgin Islands should have the power to set reasonable voting requirements for a status referendum. Under the current law, citizens of the United States resident in the Territory for 90 days could participate in elections. With over a million tourists a year and unrestricted migration from the United States to the Territory, and with a population of just over 100,000, the electoral process could be unduly influenced.

61. Mr. Corbin recalled that General Assembly resolutions had linked participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to programmes and activities of the United Nations system and requested the Special Committee, in consultation with other United Nations bodies, to initiate an outreach programme urging specialized agencies to implement membership mandates for Non-Self-Governing Territories.

62. Ms. Judith L. Bourne, Senior Fellow of the International Institute for the Study of Political Status, said that since the United States had purchased the United States Virgin Islands, the Territory's population had had no opportunity to decide on the nature of its relationship with the United States. In recent years, the rights of residents not United States citizens, as well as the application of international law, had raised the question of the Territory's status in various contexts. Some United States specialists believed that only constructs, already adopted or otherwise approved by the United States Government, were available to the Territory. Investigation into arrangements between other Caribbean entities and their former colonizers had been discouraged.

63. Although the present Status Commission had requested the United States to invite the United Nations to send an observer mission to the Territory for the 1991 status referendum, that invitation had never been extended. Without effective education of the population on the principles of international law applicable to that referendum, Ms. Bourne considered that there was a real possibility that a vote purporting to be an act of self-determination on self-determination would take place which would not be based on the principles of the 1960 Declaration and related texts.

64. Mr. Paul M. Leary, Director of the Bureau of Public Administration, University of the United States Virgin Islands, reviewed the United States Virgin Islands political status issue. He described his university's public information campaign in preparation for the referendum scheduled to have taken place in 1989 which had been subsequently postponed until 1991 in the wake of Hurricane Hugo. Public education was expensive. With a new and complicated issue, it was difficult to reach the average person who was more concerned about daily survival. Furthermore, the public must be convinced that the status issue was serious and would have a major impact on its future.

65. He considered that the difficulty of public education in the United States Virgin Islands had to do with the purely local character of the status initiative. Because the initiative did come from the United States, there was no federal funding and the results of any vote would be purely advisory. He considered that the United States should fund a thorough public education programme as part of its responsibility for the self-determination of the United States Virgin Islands.

III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SEMINAR

66. At its final meeting, on 21 June 1990, the participants in the Seminar adopted by acclamation the following summary of discussions:

Summary of discussions

1. The participants in the Caribbean Seminar reaffirmed the importance of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and praised the United Nations and, in particular, the Special Committee for the role they had played in the decolonization process during the past 30 years. They continued

to support the Declaration and the need for its implementation in the remaining colonial Territories.

2. They noted with appreciation the opening address by the Prime Minister of Barbados, Mr. L. Erskine Sandiford, M.P., and supported his position that all peoples should determine freely their present and future status and that options must be left open for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to determine their own destiny, which was the birth-right of all peoples.

3. Participants reaffirmed that the question of territorial size, geographical isolation and limited resources should not constitute an obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration. Where General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) had not been fully implemented, the international community should continue to bear responsibility for the Territories concerned until all powers were transferred to the peoples of the Territory without any conditions or reservations and the peoples concerned had had an opportunity to exercise freely their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration.

4. Noting that with the independence of Namibia, the decolonization process had entered a new and complex phase, participants reaffirmed that innovative approaches to the challenges facing the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories were required to complete the decolonization process.

5. Many speakers pointed out that in the case of the remaining small Territories, because of their peculiar characteristics, special measures might be required to enhance the implementation of the principles of decolonization.

6. The participants stressed the importance of a fair and unbiased political education for the peoples in the Territories concerned, and in that regard called for the intensification of the dissemination of information on decolonization with a view to raising the awareness of the peoples about their political rights and the options available to them in determining their future status.

7. While taking note of the strong desire which currently existed among some Non-Self-Governing Territories in the region for a more rapid and progressive move to full internal self-government, without the imposition of a specific timetable for independence, participants stressed that every support should be given during such arrangements, so that the peoples of the Territories could assume greater responsibilities for managing their own affairs, to prepare them for the full exercise of their right to self-determination and independence.

8. Participants reaffirmed the need for regular and timely submission of information required under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and called upon the administering Powers to discharge their responsibilities by co-operating fully in supplying such information.

9. Participants stressed that the United Nations should intensify its efforts in the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization. In that connection, it was suggested that regional organizations and non-governmental organizations should be utilized as much as possible. Further, the establishment in the Caribbean region of a United Nations mechanism that would ensure a better flow of information to and from the remaining Territories and on the decolonization process was called for, as the existing arrangement by the United Nations information centres in the region was seen to be inadequate.

10. Participants continued to consider the dispatch of visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories as the best means for the collection of first-hand information on the conditions in those Territories, as well as on the aspirations of the peoples concerned, in respect of their future status. The United Nations should, therefore, continue to seek the full co-operation of the administering Powers to that effect.

11. Consistent with the role of the United Nations in such exercises, the participants deemed it essential that the United Nations be called upon to observe or supervise the final act of self-determination in those Territories.

12. It was considered that the direct and closer participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the United Nations was an effective means of promoting the progress of the peoples of those Territories. In that connection, participants endorsed a proposal recommending that the Special Committee, in consultation with the Caribbean Development Co-operation Committee (CDCC), should request the specialized agencies either to implement their provision for the membership of the Non-Self-Governing Territories or to introduce such provisions where none exist consistent with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly. Participants suggested further that the United Nations should call upon the administering Powers to make every effort to facilitate and encourage the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional and international organizations.

13. Participants welcomed the increasing role being played by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in the economic and social development of the Caribbean. They viewed the move by many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of the region to forge closer links with CARICOM as a significant development. Participants believed that those efforts should be encouraged as a means of further increasing the self-reliance of the Territories concerned and of assisting in the creation of conditions for the exercise of their right to self-determination.

14. Some participants recalled General Assembly resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980 and urged that the administering Powers concerned adopt the necessary measures to discourage or prevent any systematic influx of immigrants and settlers into Territories under their administration which might disrupt the demographic composition of those Territories and prevent the genuine exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by their

peoples, and to avoid any forced displacement, complete or partial, of the population of colonial Territories.

15. Some participants urged the United Nations to review its list of Non-Self-Governing Territories to ensure that it included all Territories to which the Declaration applied.

16. Some speakers expressed their concern over the military installations and activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean region, pointing out the security risks and other adverse consequences these might cause to the small Territories.

17. Participants reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the region to own and dispose of the natural resources of their Territories, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over their future development and, in that connection, they drew attention to resolution III of annex I of the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea which declared that in the case of a Territory whose people had not attained full independence or other self-governing status recognized by the United Nations, or a Territory under colonial domination, provisions concerning rights and interests under the Convention should be implemented for the benefit of the people of the Territory with a view to promoting their well-being and development.

18. With regard to the environment, many participants highlighted the need to preserve and protect the environment of those Territories, including the prevention of disposal of toxic wastes and recalled General Assembly resolution 43/196 of 20 December 1988, of a United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and resolution 44/224 of 22 December 1989, on International co-operation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and in assistance in cases of environmental emergencies, reaffirmed the right of the peoples of the Territories to exploit their own resources, and the responsibility of the administering Powers concerned to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of the Territories.

19. Participants stressed the need for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to be included in the programmes and projects of the United Nations system such as those envisaged under the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and those designed to assist island developing countries.

20. Participants welcomed the opportunity provided through CDCC for the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in adoption of specific measures in favour of island developing countries as called for in General Assembly resolution 43/189 of 20 December 1988. They expressed the hope that due consideration would be given to the distinctive characteristics and problems of the small island Territories in that context.

21. Participants reaffirmed that all administering Powers were obliged, under the Charter and in keeping with the provisions of the Declaration, to create economic, social and other conditions in the Territories under their administration that would enable the latter to exercise fully their right to self-determination.

22. Participants expressed the view that any economic activity that impeded the implementation of the Declaration and obstructed efforts aimed at the elimination of colonialism was a direct violation of the rights of the inhabitants of colonial Territories and of the principles of the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. They considered that economic and financial activities should not be controlled by the administering Power where such control would constitute an obstacle to political independence.

23. It was noted that some of the remaining Territories had a low level of economic development owing to their limited natural resources. Further, it was noted that until there was a greater diversity of aid sources and increased self-reliance, the economies of those Territories would remain dependent and be subject to control by the administering Powers and outside interests. It was the view of the participants that the administering Powers, in co-operation with the territorial Government and the specialized agencies of the United Nations, should take the necessary measures to facilitate a sustained and balanced growth of the fragile economies of the remaining Territories and to intensify their assistance in the development of all sectors of those economies, with particular emphasis on programmes of diversification, in order to promote the economic and financial viability of those Territories.

24. It was also recognized that the tourist industry continued to be the main economic activity of some island Territories given their attractive climatic and environmental conditions and that others were likely to engage in the same activities. While recognizing that, given their limited natural resources, tourism could be a major source of revenue for those Territories, the participants considered that such development activities should be undertaken with extreme care to ensure that the scarce land resources were not alienated from the people of the Territories, and that the development of a tourist industry should be closely monitored to avoid cultural disruption and to ensure that there was no marginalization of the local population.

25. Participants took note of the assistance extended to the remaining Territories by certain specialized agencies and other institutions of the United Nations system and considered that such assistance should be expanded further, commensurate with the pressing needs of the peoples concerned for external assistance owing to the particular existing conditions in those Territories. They expressed the view that i extending material assistance to the Territories concerned, the specialized agencies and other institutions of the United Nations system should bear in mind that such assistance should not only meet their immediate needs but also create conditions for development after they have exercised their right to self-determination and independence.

26. Participants took note of the vulnerability of the Territories of the Caribbean region to drug trafficking and money-laundering activities and, in that connection, called upon the administering Powers concerned and the international community to take all necessary measures in co-operation with the territorial Governments to combat the drug problem, in all its aspects, within the Territories concerned.

27. Participants believed that, despite the accomplishments of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, the objectives of the Declaration had not yet been fully met and the process of decolonization had not yet been completed. They paid tribute to the Special Committee for its dedicated endeavours to promote the interests of the peoples of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to uphold their inalienable right to self-determination and independence. They considered, however, that a great deal remained to be done by the Special Committee and indeed by the United Nations before colonialism could finally be eliminated.

Annex I

THEMES DISCUSSED AT THE SEMINAR

Upon the recommendation of the General Assembly (resolution 44/100 of 11 December 1989, annex), the following themes were discussed at the seminar:

(a) Self-determination: its application to small Territories, particularly to the case of small islands;

(b) Economic and social development in the small Territories and their impact on the exercise of the right of the peoples of those Territories to self-determination;

(c) Environmental problems affecting small islands;

(d) Protection of natural resources, particularly marine resources, for the benefit of the populations of small islands and Territories;

(e) Protection of land for island populations and dangers of foreign exploitation;

(f) Heightening of awareness of options concerning future political status;

(g) Colonialism and racial discrimination;

(h) Self-determination and regional integration of small islands;

(i) Foreign economic interests and/or activities in the small Territories, with particular concern for the views of the populations concerned;

(j) Consequences of the military use of small islands.

Annex II

ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF BARBADOS

It is indeed a pleasure for me, on behalf of the Government and people of Barbados, to welcome you to Barbados. I am also delighted to have been invited to address the opening ceremony of this Regional Seminar, which has been organized by the United Nations as part of the activities commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

We in Barbados are particularly honoured and happy at having been afforded this opportunity to offer our island home as the venue for this important Seminar.

The Special Committee on decolonization was established 30 years ago. Its mission is concerned with the progress of all peoples under colonial rule towards self-determination and independence. Its task is really to work itself out of a job, by enabling peoples and Territories anywhere on the face of the earth to attain their highest form of development and self-fulfilment by laying claim to, and sustaining their inalienable right to, free expression, freedom and independence.

On 14 December 1960, the United Nations, during the fifteenth session of the General Assembly, adopted (by 89 votes in favour and 9 abstentions) the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. At that time, the United Nations numbered 101 Members. These Member States included the original European colonial Powers, their former prototypal colonies in the Americas, a mixture of old and new nation-States from the Asian and Pacific regions, and a few newly independent African States. Together these countries made a promise to mankind: a pledge to succeeding generations that "all peoples have the right to self-determination: by virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue the economic, social and cultural development", and that "inadequacy of political, economic, social or educational preparedness should never serve as a pretext for delaying independence".

Since its establishment, the Committee has made a remarkable contribution to the United Nations effort in assisting peoples and Territories throughout the world to gain their independence. At least 59 former colonial Territories inhabited by more than 80 million people have attained independence and joined the United Nations as sovereign Members.

The Non-Self-Governing Territories are now small and largely to be found in the Caribbean and Pacific regions. The task facing the United Nations is to assist those Territories in determining their own future. Barbados maintains a special interest in the Non-Self-Governing Territories of the Caribbean. We believe that size should not be a deterrent to the free expression of the will of the people. Nor should economic circumstance be an insuperable determinant. We are a small territory too. We too in Barbados experience severe limitations in terms of economic disabilities. We became independent on 30 November 1966. Since then, we

have been able to maintain our independence and the fundamental human rights. Through the maintenance of free parliamentary representative institutions, we have been able to achieve the economic growth and social advancement of our people.

We have achieved progress by developing both our human and natural resources, by integrating our efforts with those of our Caribbean neighbours, and by co-operating in the international economic community through the interchange of goods and services. Above all, we co-operate with other countries in the United Nations and its specialized agencies in attaining the civilizing goals of that world body.

A number of countries in the Caribbean have gained their independence since this Committee was established in 1961, but a number are still not independent. Barbados believes that all peoples should determine freely their present and future status, whether they wish to gain independence now, whether they wish to retain their status with the colonial or administering Power into the foreseeable future, or whether they wish to retain that status in the short- or medium-term until they can adjust their economic, social or political circumstance preparatory to exercising their right to freedom and independence. Their options must be left open for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to determine.

This Seminar presents an opportunity for us to focus on the problems and prospects of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of the region. Your presence here today is a resounding vote of confidence in my country's unwavering commitment to the principles of self-determination, to the right of all peoples to freedom, and to the process of decolonization. I thank you for this tribute.

Barbados is also honoured to find itself in a position to further its work in this field through its current vice-chairmanship of the General Assembly's Fourth Committee which, as you know, is seized of trusteeship and decolonization issues.

Allow me to take this opportunity to hail Namibia's accession to independence on 21 March 1990. On that day, Namibia freed itself not only of the yoke of colonialism, but also the monstrous and evil system of apartheid. The well documented passage of that country from South West Africa to the independent Republic of Namibia is truly one of the finest examples of the invaluable work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization.

Barbados is happy to have participated in this process, in particular through the education of Namibians in our institutions here. Namibia's example holds great significance for South Africa and we look forward to the day soon when all South Africans, black, white or coloured, can exercise their inalienable rights in a free and democratic South Africa.

The United Nations is the ideal forum in which to address decolonization matters. In outlining the principles and purposes of the Organization, Article 1, paragraph 2, of the Charter reads as follows: "To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples ...". Membership in the United Nations is determined not by criteria of size, strength, wealth or maturity, but by the one requirement of independence.

The United Nations fosters and nurtures, as no other international organization does, small and poor countries as they come to terms with their newly acquired sovereignty. This has indeed been the experience of the developing micro-States of the Caribbean archipelago.

As I stated during my first address to the United Nations General Assembly as Prime Minister of Barbados in October 1987, the international community, as we perceive it today, owes its very survival to the small States of this world. Sometimes large and powerful States are tempted to delude themselves that they can forego multilateral diplomacy and dispense with international co-operation. In these instances, small States have a fundamental role to play in shaping reality by steadfastly practising international co-operation, vigorously promoting multilateral diplomacy and firmly supporting international organizations, such as the United Nations. This is our only hope of survival as sovereign States.

At the time of Barbados' independence, there were many who argued that it would have been to the country's and the people's advantage to remain a colony in the British Empire. However, the Government of that day, which was led by the same Democratic Labour Party that now governs Barbados, wisely realized that sovereignty is the most natural form of a people's existence, that the freedom of determining one's own destiny is the very birth-right of all peoples.

Indeed, in 1966 Barbados was more than ready to manage its own affairs, not only internally as we had been successfully doing for some time, but also externally as an independent nation. The late Errol Walton Barrow, the father of Barbados' independence and then Premier of Barbados, declared during the Barbados Constitutional Conference held in London in July 1966, that Barbados would not be guilty of "loitering on colonial premises". Mr. Barrow also said of the Barbadian people, and I quote, "Neither the smallness of their territory nor the slenderness of their resource deters them in the path of nationhood. They have a modest part to play in the affairs of their region, the Commonwealth and the world, and all they require from you is that you should speed them to their rendezvous with destiny ...". That no one now denies the wisdom of that decision to accede to independence in 1966 is testimony of the success of the endeavour. Barbadians have been able to create a political system and social democracy in which the talents and enterprise of individuals are allowed free play. All are assured health care, education, housing and good working conditions as basic rights. Moreover, this system is institutionalized within a legal framework that guarantees the rights and freedoms of all citizens.

This critical challenge that Barbados has faced of building an independent country is by no means dissimilar to the experiences of most of our sister countries in the Caribbean. This challenge now confronts those Territories which remain under colonialism. The colonial experience of the independent States in the Caribbean is recent, and its lessons are still applicable and may be learnt by our non-independent neighbours.

In sharing with the dependent Territories the lessons of our past and in participating in these Territories' struggles for future independence, the independent Caribbean countries must re-examine the ideals and aspirations which

motivated us to seek to control our own destinies. We must monitor ourselves to ensure that we have not traded one brand of client status for another. We must if necessary reaffirm and revive the fervour which once guided us. Excellencies, this is a task that you might apply yourselves to during the Seminar.

In conclusion, let me remind you that the highest form of political, economic, social and cultural independence in each individual Caribbean territory will come through regional integration and self-reliance. We must remember that for political freedom to be real, it must rest on independent economic foundations.

Annex III

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS

A. Participating members of the Special Committee

Chairman of the Special Committee	H.E. Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations

Members of the Special Committee

Afghanistan	Mr. Mohauddin Taeb First Secretary, Permanent Mission to the United Nations
China	Mr. Lu Yongshou First Secretary, Permanent Mission to the United Nations
Côte d'Ivoire	Mr. N'Zi Anet Minister Counsellor Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations
Cuba	Mrs. Maria Cecilia Bermudez Official, Division of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Czechoslovakia	Mr. Alexander Slabý First Secretary, Permanent Mission to the United Nations
Norway	Mr. Sverre J. Bergh Johanssen Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations
Trinidad and Tobago	Mrs. Margaret A. King-Rousseau First Secretary, Permanent Mission to the United Nations

B. Representatives of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories

British Virgin Islands	The Honourable Ralph T. O'Neal Deputy Chief Minister

Montserrat	The Honourable John Osborne Chief Minister
	The Honourable Vernon Jeffers Minister of Education, Health and Community Services
	Mr. John Kelsick Nominated Member Legislative Council
Turks and Caicos Islands	Mr. Wendal L. Swann Minister for Social Services
	Mr. Alden Durnam Leader of the Opposition in the Parliament
United States Virgin Islands	Mr. Carlyle Corbin Representative for External Affairs

C. United Nations bodies

Special Committee against Apartheid	Mr. Virendra Gupta First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian Committee	Mrs. Maria Cecilia Bermudez Official, Division of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	Mr. Donatus St. Aimee Secretary, Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee
United Nations Children's Fund	Mr. Edmond McLoughney Programme Co-ordinator
	Ms. Betty Ann Russell Women Development Officer
United Nations Development Programme	Mr. Rolf Stefanson Resident Representative in Barbados
	Mr. Kristiane Golze Assistant Representative in Barbados
	Mr. A. Roy Rodriguez Project Director

Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator/Pan Caribbean Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Project	Mr. Franklin McDonald Project Manager

D. Caribbean Community

Trinidad and Tobago	H.E. Mrs. Laila Valere High Commissioner to Barbados
	Mr. Dennison Webster Foreign Service Officer

E. Intergovernmental bodies

Organization of American States	Mr. Val McComie Assistant Secretary-General
Caribbean Community secretariat	Mr. Frank D. Abdulah Deputy Secretary-General
Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee	Mr. Donatus St. Aimee Secretary

F. Specialized agencies

International Labour Organisation	Mr. Patrick Eason Doughty Deputy Director Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
World Health Organization	Dr. Halmond Dyer

G. Special guests

Mr. Frank D. Abdulah	Former Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples; Deputy Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community
Mr. James W. Black	Consultant on development

Mr. A. M. Antony Cave	Vice-Chairman of the Fourth Committee (forty-fourth session of the General Assembly); Chargé d'affaires a.i., Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations
Mr. Roger Clark	Professor of International Law, Rutgers University
Mrs. Carmen Gautier-Mayoral	Professor of Political Science; Director, Social Science Center, University of Puerto Rico
Mr. Paul Leary	Director of the Bureau of Public Administration, University of the United States Virgin Islands
Mr. Val McComie	Assistant Secretary-General, Organization of American States
Sir Fred Phillips	Constitutional and international lawyer and author; former Governor of St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla
Mr. Peter Schwab	Professor of Political Science, State University of New York
Mr. Anthony Thorndike	Chairman, Department of International Affairs and Politics, Staffordshire Polytechnic
Ms. Donna Winslow	Professor of Anthropology, University of Montreal

H. Non-governmental organizations

Caribbean Conference of Churches	Reverend Allan F. Kirton
Caribbean Institute for the Promotion of Human Rights	Mr. Donald Trotman
Committee for the Independence of Bermuda	Mr. C. Walton Brown, Jr.
International Institute for the Study of Political Status	Ms. Judith L. Bourne

National Council of Women, Anguilla	Mrs. Phyllis Fleming-Banks
Organization of Solidarity of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America	Mr. Charles Mohler Garcia
Pax Christi International	Sister Mary Beth Reissen
Trinidad and Tobago Peace Council	Mr. James Millette
World Council of Churches	Reverend Allan F. Kirton

I. Observers

1. Member States

Argentina	Ms. Maria Fernanda Canas Second Secretary, Permanent Mission to the United Nations

2. Others

Netherlands Antilles	Mr. Dennis Pantophlet Island Council Member
	Mr. William Marlin Island Council Member
	Mr. Fitzroy Bryant Advisor, Constitutional Affairs
	Mr. Henry Fingal Advisor, Constitutional Affairs
	Ms. Sarah Wescott-Williams Secretary to the Island Council

J. Host Government

The Honourable Maurice King	Attorney-General and Minister for Legal and Foreign Affairs
Dr. Peter Laurie	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Ricardo Browne	Senior Foreign Service Officer Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ms. Simone Rudder	Foreign Service Officer Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Annex IV

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF BARBADOS

Regional Seminar in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Having met from 19 to 21 June 1990 at Bridgetown for the purpose of reviewing the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with respect to the remaining Territories with which the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples is concerned,

Having heard an important address by the Honourable Rt. L. Erskine Sandiford, M.P., Prime Minister of Barbados,

Expresses its profound gratitude to the Prime Minister, the Government and the people of Barbados for providing the Special Committee with the necessary facilities for its Regional Seminar meetings, for the outstanding contribution they have made to the success of the Seminar and in particular for the very generous and kind hospitality and the warm and cordial reception accorded to the participants and observers throughout their stay in Barbados.

5th meeting at Bridgetown
21 June 1990